

San Diego DX Club

BULLETIN



The San Diego DX Club (SDDXC) is among the best known and most highly respected DX clubs in the United States. Since it's founding in 1946, SDDXC members have been on both sides of the pile-ups with DXpeditions and a fair share have achieved "Top of the Honor Roll" status. If you're interested in chasing DX, contesting, exchanging stories or just rubbing elbows with fellow "Big Guns" or "Little Pistols", you'll feel right at home at one of our club meetings. Join us at our next meeting. Visitors are particularly welcome!

Sunspots? Who needs sunspots?

PW6C
IOTA Expedition - Coroa Vermelha Island
ANLHS BBA-829 - WL0TA UN-2493 - DFB BA-913
IOTA SA-062 - DIB BA-063

The IOTA SA-062 Group is the actual 6th most wanted IOTA group in South America, and 2nd most wanted in Brazil. It is composed by two islands, Coroa Vermelha Island and Coroa da Barra Island.

This DXpedition will be placed between November 11 to 17, by a group of 6 operators who will deal with around the clock operations giving the world wide IOTA community the opportunity to confirm this rare IOTA group.

73 de PW6C team

CONG HOA XÃ HỘI CHỦ NGHĨA VIỆT NAM
XV4D
VIETNAM 2009

DK1BT, DL4WK, DLSCW, DL7DF & DL7UFR
presenting
PHÚ QUỐC -- RS 128

XROY
Easter Island

TX3A
Chesterfield Island

Recent DX action from San Diego on 20 and 40 meters



Join us at
The SIZZLER
Aero Drive & Murphy Canyon Rd

November 25, 2009

Social hour, 5:00 P.M. — Dinner, 5:30 P.M. - Meeting, 6:30 P.M

The last time we had a Shack Tour program was 14 years ago. Recently, our VP visited the shacks of four SDDXC members armed with her digital camera. Whose shacks were visited will remain unknown until the meeting. Join us to learn the identities.

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From the Prez

Wayne Zimmerman NN6R



Boy how the year is flying. So much DX to work and so little time to work them. Apparently the bands were wide open for the DX contest a few weeks ago, but those numbers haven't returned. Maybe by the CW contest at the end of the month they will be back. At least the numbers are getting better slowly but surely.

Harry W6YOO and I were on the QCWA Cruise/Convention and missed both the last club meeting and the SSB contest. The highlight of the trip was the private tour we had to the Areceibo Radio Telescope outside of San Juan, Puerto Rico. The hams from the club station KP4AO came in on their day off and gave us a wonderful tour. You can't imagine the immensity of the site until you actually see it in person. As a part of the tour, a bunch of us got to go to the KP4AO station there on site and get to operate. It was a lot of fun and even Harry behaved himself. We also operated the QCWA call W2MM while onboard the ship. They set up a dipole and a vertical for use with an Icom 7600. Nice rig. They also had several forums for us to attend if we wished. Our very own Harry Hodges, W6YOO, gave a presentation on IOTA similar to the one he gave our club a while back. He received a lot of compliments.

Thanks to Gayle for being the acting President for the meeting in my absence. I hear she did a great job, which I expected. I did hear from a few of you that she is better looking, too. Ooch.

I understand that we got a few more sign ups to man the registration desk at Visalia. We still need more slots filled and I would expect that everyone attending would be helping with the registration. This is our only assignment this year and accomplishing this is the only way we make some money from the convention. Please give us at least an hour of your time. The committee has established the Pre-registration at \$90 and the tentative start date for pre-registration is Monday Jan. 4, 2010. For the shirts, we voted for light blue with pocket and the cost looks to be around \$25 which is less than in 2008. The date again is April 16 – 18.

I only heard back from one member when I previously inquired as to whether any of you wanted to join us at a San Diego table. Therefore, I haven't requested a table so it may be you will end up being assigned to a table. I'll bring this up again at the Nov. meeting.

Hopefully we will get a big turnout for the November 25th meeting. I know it is the night before Thanksgiving, but I think the spouses would just as soon we get out from under foot for the evening. Gayle has a nice program planned, and we are all interested in what DX you've been working during the DX Roundup. Also, for those of you who haven't yet heard about our \$1,000 dipole in Poway, come and get educated. See you then.

73, Wayne NN6R

San Diego DX Club Policy on Content of SDDXC Bulletin and E-mail Reflector

The San Diego DX Club, a group of Amateur Radio operators interested in the art of DXing, publishes a monthly newsletter, and maintains an e-mail reflector where members and officers can post information of interest to other members. The E-mail reflector and SDDXC Bulletin are administered by and are the property of the SDDXC. The Club's policy is to print and/or post only information that is related to Amateur Radio, and not items of a political or religious nature, unless it has an impact on Amateur Radio, such as antenna ordinances, etc.

If a member wishes to have printed/posted any topic that is not Amateur Radio related, they can submit a copy to the club newsletter editor, webmaster, e-mail reflector moderator or any club officer, and the matter will be discussed and decided upon by the Board of Directors. **No PERSONAL ATTACKS** will be allowed in either the newsletter or on the reflector.

Submissions are due on the 1st Friday after the 2nd Wednesday of each month!!

Treasurers Report

Leon Helms N6VS



Bank Balance as of September 1, 2009 3393.90

Income:

Contributions to legal fund	20.00
Membership dues	20.00
Bash beer resale	85.49
NCDXF from N6VS	25.00

Expenses:

Bash Groceries	31.98
Speakers Dinner	12.00
Power strip	14.00

Bank balance September 31 3486.28

Petty Cash on hand 20.00

Balance checking & Petty Cash 3506.28

San Diego DX Club Meeting Minutes

The San Diego DX Club held its regular monthly meeting on Wednesday, October 28, 2009 at the Sizzler Restaurant, Aero Drive and Murphy Canyon Road. Vice President, Gayle Olson K6GO, called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Thirty-three members and guests were present. Bob N6OPR and Wes, W3SE / ZL3TE / 3D2SE / 9M2/W3SE were introduced as visitors for the evening.

The sign up sheet for the registration desk at Visalia was circulated again.

K6AM presented the top 20 CW list this month. W6YA is on top with 337 confirmed.

The DX roundup was as interesting as ever, with reports from the recent contests and improving band conditions.

The evening's program was Steve W6TAN's presentation of a DX quiz after the members were randomly split into teams of 4 members each. A difficult set of 35 questions were then asked, ranging from what does dxcc stand for in www.dxcc.com to what Pacific Island contains 3 DXCC entities and what are they? The team "Ace and King of Spades" consisting of K6AM, W6YA, N6ND and K6JHD won by an amazing score of 31 of 43 possible points, 5 ahead of second place.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42

Respectfully submitted by Leon Helms N6VS secretary/treasurer

THE SDDXC TOP 10 (EXPANDED VERSION)

By John, K6AM

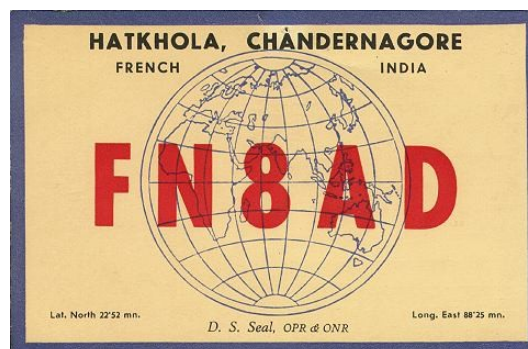
CURRENT COUNTRIES
CONFIRMED ON CW



11/09	11/08	CALL	C-D	CFM	WKD	CHG
1.	1.	W6YA	337	371	371	-
2.	2.	K6AM	337	343	343	+1
3.	4.	N6CW	333	358	359	-
4.	5.	W6EUF	333	351	354	-
5.	6.	K6TQ	333	339	339	-
6.	7.	N7CW	333	333	334	-
7.	8.	K9RHY	332	341	341	-
8.	9.	K6ZH	330	337	338	-
9.	11.	N6ND	329	338	346	+4
10.	10.	W6YOO	326	327	329	-
11.	13.	N6AW	323	334	335	-
12.	12.	NN6K	321	321	321	-4
12.	14	K6XT	316	?	327	-
14.	15.	W6TUR	315	315	318	-
15.	16.	K0XB	314	318	324	+7
16.	17.	W6BS	298	310	310	-
17.	18.	WN6K	281	288	317	-
18.	19.	N6VS	263	263	267	+7
19.	-	W6YI	250	250	303	NEW
20.	20.	N7TY	244	244	253	-

We've expanded the CW top 10 to include the top 20 players. Some movement in the second ten as those cards continue to arrive. Jim, W6YI has been practicing his CW and has now made the list. The top spots remain stable, but that may change as the SFI goes up. There is still plenty of room here for most club members to get several new ones on CW. In many cases all that is needed is the QSL.

Each month, we will publish a top ten list for one of the lesser-recognized but hard won categories. Coming up next, 10/40M and 80/20M. Please send me your totals for each band and mode throughout the year and you will be listed in coming months. Use the convenient form at <http://www.sddxc.org> or bring 'em to the meeting.



The Russian Woodpecker

By Bob Farkaly, K9RHY

Old Timer DXers (like myself ☺) remember battling the "Russian Woodpecker" between July 1976 and December 1989.

The Woodpecker was a Russian signal that sounded like a sharp, repetitive tapping noise and played havoc with 20 and 40 meters. The repetition rate was about 10 Hz, leading to the "Woodpecker" name. Random frequency hops disrupted not only DXers but broadcast and utility transmissions as well.



At the time, most of my fellow NIDXA (Northern Illinois DX Association) members speculated that the Woodpecker was part of a gigantic over-the-horizon radar (OTH) system. My Kenwood TS-950S had a special noise blanker (NB 2) specifically designed to attenuate "long duration pulse noise, like the "woodpecker".

The OTH theory was confirmed after the fall of the Soviet Union, and we now know that the Woodpecker was the Duga-3 system, part of the Soviet ABM early-warning network.

The Russians were looking

for a way to know if we opened our silo doors and let our Minutemen and Peacekeepers fly. Satellite networks were not yet well enough developed for this specific task, so the Russians began working on over-the-horizon radar systems in the late 1960s.

According to the Wikipedia, the first experimental system, Duga-1, was built outside Mykolaiv in Ukraine, successfully detecting rocket launches from the Baikonur Cosmodrome about 2,500 kilometers away. This was followed by the prototype Duga-2, built on the same site, which was able to track launches from the Far East and submarines in the Pacific Ocean as the missiles flew towards Novaya Zemlya. Both of these radars were aimed east and were fairly low power, but with the concept proven work began on an operational system. The new Duga-3 systems used a transmitter and receiver separated by about 60 km. Transmission power on the Woodpecker transmitters was estimated to be as high as 10 MW EIRP.

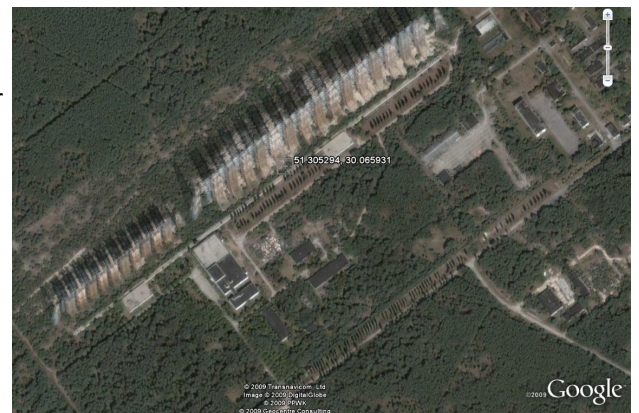
One idea, widely advocated by Wayne Green, W2NSD, through his **73 Magazine** editorials was for DXers to combat the Woodpecker by jamming the signal by transmitting CW signals at the same pulse rate. Unfortunately, my experience was that CW signals didn't have any effect.



Triangulation revealed that the Woodpecker's signals came from Ukraine. Unknown to most DXers, NATO was aware of the installation and referred to it as "Steel Yard".

As more information about the signal became available, its purpose as a radar signal became increasingly obvious. In particular, its signal contained a clearly recognizable structure in each pulse, which was eventually identified as a 31-bit pseudo-random binary sequence, with a bit-width of 100 μ s resulting in a 3.1 ms pulse. This sequence is usable for a 100 μ s chirped pulse amplification system, giving a resolution of 15 km (10 mi) (the distance light travels in 50 μ s). When a second Woodpecker appeared, this one located in eastern Russia but also pointed toward the US and covering blank spots in the first system's pattern, this conclusion became inescapable.

FCC data analysis showed a frequency range of 7 to 19 MHz, a bandwidth of 0.02 to 0.8 MHz, and typical transmission time of 7 minutes. The most common repetition rate was 10 Hz. The pulses transmitted by the woodpecker had a wide bandwidth, typically 40 kHz.



Upcoming Contests



“Thanks to Gayle for being the acting President for the meeting in my absence. I hear she did a great job, which I expected. I did hear from a few of you that she is better looking, too. Ooch.”

**Wayne
NN6R**

Contest	Start date	Start time	End date	End time
CQ Worldwide DX Contest CW	Nov 28	0000Z	Nov 29	2400Z
ARRL 160-Meter Contest	Dec 04	2200Z	Dec 06	1600Z
ARRL 10-Meter Contest	Dec 12	0000Z	Dec 13	2359Z
RAC Winter Contest	Dec 19	0000Z	Dec 19	2359Z
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Dec 26	1500Z	Dec 27	1500Z

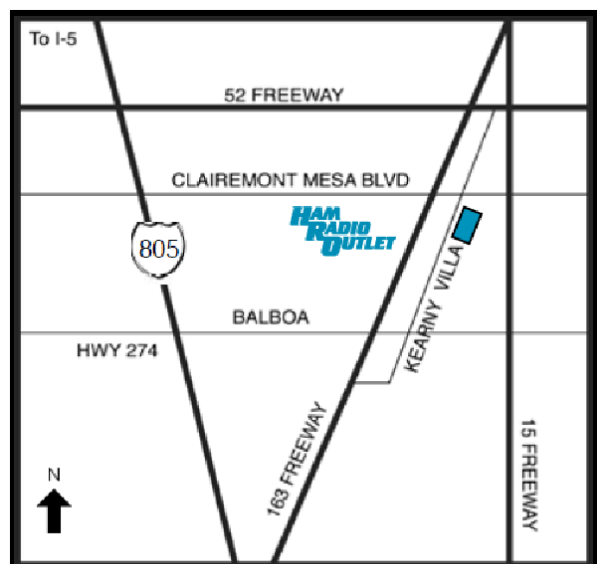
On December 5th Ham Radio Outlet will celebrate the Grand Re-Opening of its San Diego location.

The event will be similar to the Customer Appreciation Day held in October, with representatives of ham equipment manufacturers on hand to answer your questions. There will be SPECIAL ONE DAY pricing on just about everything in the store. The owner, Robert Ferraro Jr. will also be on hand for the celebration. To top it all off, there will be a raffle with several prizes awarded throughout the day, so a good time should be had by all.

Jose De La Cruz, Manager, HRO - San Diego



K6GO with her new 160 meter helical antenna



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DX Is!!